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COUNTY RESTRUCTURING STUDIES PROGRAM

STATUS REPORT #3

(June 2, 1975)

On August 30, 1974, the Local Government Organization Branch of the Ministry of Treasury, Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs issued Status Report #1 on the County Restructuring Studies Program. Status Report #2 followed on January 10, 1975.

The third update, entitled Status Report #3, covers activity in the area of local government reform as of June 2, 1975. Additional copies may be obtained through the Ontario Government Bookstore, or by writing The Local Government Organization Branch, Ministry of Treasury, Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs, Frost Building North, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario. Telephone (416) 965-6934.

The County Restructuring Studies Program was announced on October 29, 1973, by the Honourable John White in a speech to the Association of Counties and Regions of Ontario. This is a program in which the initiative comes, not from Queen's Park, but from the counties themselves. In early February, 1974, the Provincial Municipal Liaison Committee endorsed the proposals and Cabinet adopted them as the foundation of the new program. Later that month County Restructuring Studies Program: Guidelines was published setting out the terms under which the Province will participate in a study.

In brief, the program provides that the province will assist any county which, along with the cities or separated towns that may be within the county, wishes to study its system of local government. When a county and its separated municipalities by resolution request a county restructuring study, ministry officials work with them to develop terms of reference for a study and to retain a study commissioner to undertake the study. The commissioner, usually a person with broad experience in local government, is then directed to prepare a report after an extensive period of research and intensive public participation.

On completion of the study the commissioner submits his final report to the municipalities who in turn give it wide circulation. At that point the initiative rests with the municipalities as to whether they wish to ask the province to proceed with legislation to restructure local government in the county.

The Province's role throughout the study is that of an equal partner. In addition to financing half the cost of the study (up to \$50,000) the Province provides a liaison officer to ensure that information flows freely between the Province and the commissioner and between the Province and the municipality. The details of the program are contained in County Restructuring Studies: Guidelines, February, 1974,

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Ministry of Treasury, Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs which publication is available through the Ontario Government Bookstore, or by writing the Local Government Organization Branch, 4th Floor, Frost Building North, Queen's Park.

PROGRESS TO JUNE 2, 1975

BRUCE COUNTY

One of the first to get underway, the Bruce County Local Government Study under Commissioner Ed Cornies, culminated its introductory research phase in February with the presentation of a Research Report to County Council.

The Report includes a detailed description of the structure, functions, and financing of the local government system. Also included is an outline of the system's historical evolution and its relationship to both federal and provincial levels. A discussion of the geographic, economic, and demographic context of local government in Bruce County illuminates the patterns by which County residents interact in the socio-economic sphere. The final chapter presents a wide range of questions and conclusions regarding local government in Bruce.

These questions and conclusions served as a basis for dialogue with municipal councils and with the public at a round of nine "drop-in" sessions, and at public hearings, at five locations, in late April. The presentation of written briefs and oral submissions at these hearings led to further discussion in a casual atmosphere.

These discussions will assist the Commissioner, in combination with his own assessment of his findings, to prepare an Interim Report on the issues and alternatives facing local government in Bruce. This Report is due in mid-June, 1975. A final report will be released in the fall after an intensive round of meetings and hearings.

DUFFERIN COUNTY

On December 2, 1974, the County of Dufferin signed an agreement to retain Eric Hardy as their study commissioner.

In early April, Mr. Hardy issued a brief document of introduction to his study. The Reason Why outlines the study's auspices, origins and its terms of reference; the study procedure and opportunities for public participation, as well as the reasons for, and potential value of, a County Restructuring Study.

During April, Mr. Hardy introduced himself and the study to each municipal council and to the public at a series of four meetings held throughout the County.

In the meantime, his program of research, opinion-gathering, and analysis is proceeding toward the presentation of a preliminary report on restructuring possibilities which is due in the early summer. This Report is intended to provoke the reactions of the Dufferin public at a number of meetings and hearings during the fall. Mr. Hardy's final report is expected in mid-summer, 1976.

ELGIN COUNTY

The County Council, the City of St. Thomas and the Province have agreed to retain Steven Janes of MacLaren Planning to undertake a county restructuring study. Mr. Janes' prospectus received approval in December of 1974.

His first Research Report, which was released in May, provides background information on Elgin's economic, population and development characteristics, as well as an historical perspective on its local government. This report is to be followed by four others with a final report due in March of 1976.

ESSEX COUNTY

The first of the C.R.S.P. studies, the Essex-Windsor Study of Peter Silcox and research director, John Jackson, is well underway. Dr. Silcox has met with a cross-section of groups and municipalities and has issued two research reports.

One report deals with social and economic background material; the other, with the basic structural arrangements of municipal government. Additional research reports are expected within the next few months with the final report due in July of 1976.

GREY COUNTY

After lengthy discussion, an agreement for a Grey-Owen Sound Restructuring Study, with Don Paterson as Commissioner, was finalized by the outgoing City and County Councils in December of 1974. This agreement was then signed by the Minister in January, 1975.

Mr. Paterson's prospectus, however, while receiving unanimous approval from the City of Owen Sound, was rejected by a 47-9 vote of the Grey County Council in March. Under the terms of the C.R.S.P. agreement this rejection of the prospectus by the 1975-76 County Council led to the termination of the

County Restructuring Study in the Grey-Owen Sound area.

HALIBURTON COUNTY

Mr. Robert Galloway has been selected by the County Council to undertake a County Restructuring Study. A Study Agreement is under discussion and a prospectus is expected shortly.

KENT COUNTY

Kent County Council, the City of Chatham and the Province have agreed to retain Lionel Feldman as the Commissioner for a Restructuring Study. The study prospectus has recently been approved and research work has commenced.

LANARK COUNTY

Don King and research co-ordinator Daniel Mayo have been retained by the County of Lanark and the Separated Town of Smiths Falls to undertake a County Restructuring Study. To date, the Commissioner has completed a preliminary round of meetings with all local councils.

The initial research phase of the study will be completed with the return of a clerks' questionnaire and community of interest study. A research data book is scheduled for publication by the end of June.

A series of public hearings scheduled to begin in late August to accommodate cottagers will continue through September and into early October. Mr. King's final report and recommendations are expected in June of 1976.

LENNOX AND ADDINGTON

The County Council and the Province of Ontario have engaged C. R. Tindal as Commissioner for a Restructuring Study. The prospectus submitted by Dr. Tindal has been approved, and he is now commencing the research phase of the study. Dr. Tindal's final report is due in July of 1977.

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY

Don King has been retained as Commissioner for a Restructuring Study of the County of Northumberland. His prospectus was approved by the Minister in February, 1975.

The introductory phase of the study began in early March with Mr. King and his project co-ordinator, Fred Hilling, engaged in a round of meetings with each of Northumberland's fifteen municipal councils. With the input from these meetings, along with data gleaned from numerous background reports on the County, Mr. King then proceeded to develop, and present to the Planning Committee, a series of alternatives. These alternatives then served as a preliminary basis for discussion.

Public meetings are being scheduled throughout Northumberland during the summer months. Storefronts for the study, operating out of town halls and community centres, will be manned by summer students.

Mr. King expects to publish a series of status papers during the life of the study and to present his final recommendations in a report due in early December of 1975.

PRESCOTT AND RUSSELL

The Council of the United Counties have retained Goldwyn Sunderland as their Study Commissioner. Mr. Sunderland is presently engaged in preliminary research and preparation for the first round of Council and public meetings scheduled for June. His final report is expected in June of 1976.

RENFREW COUNTY

The Commissioner appointed by the County and the City of Pembroke is Eric Hardy. Mr. Hardy has met with all of Renfrew's thirty-seven local councils and has chaired four public meetings to introduce and discuss the study. These public meetings were very well attended.

Mr. Hardy intends to publish a preliminary booklet entitled Restructuring Possibilities. It is hoped that discussion during the second set of public meetings will be directed to these suggested possibilities. The Commissioner also intends to take part in a day-long seminar on restructuring in September. His final report is due by the spring of 1976.

STORMONT, DUNDAS AND GLENGARRY

The United Counties and the City of Cornwall have made some enquiries concerning the possibility of a C.R.S.P. Study.

VICTORIA COUNTY

The Study Commissioner retained by Victoria County is R. E. Sims. Mr. Sims has completed his initial

round of meetings with local councils, and is now on the verge of publishing his research report. His final report is due in June of 1976.

OTHER STUDIES:

Several other areas in the Province are presently involved in studies other than county restructuring studies. These studies constitute fundamental examinations of local government structure and are being conducted with or without provincial assistance. A brief outline of their progress follows:

BRANT COUNTY

The last of the Regional Government Studies funded by the Province was completed by Howard Smith for Brant County and the City of Brantford in January of 1974. In his report, Mr. Smith recommended a two-tier regional structure encompassing all of the county and city. A joint city-county committee has been formed to study the report and develop recommendations. Copies of Mr. Smith's report are available from the Office of Information Services, Ministry of Treasury, Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs, Frost Building South, Queen's Park. Telephone (416) 965-7171.

LEEDS AND GRENVILLE

A series of reports concerning the United Counties has recently been completed by Dr. Richard Tindal. The reports describe a series of alternatives while attempting to develop a schedule for gradual

reform. County Council have the reports under consideration and are discussing appropriate action.

METROPOLITAN TORONTO

The Royal Commission on Metropolitan Toronto, headed by the Honourable John P. Robarts, and operating with a small permanent staff including Richard Rohmer Q.C., as Commission Counsel, Kenneth Cameron as Executive Secretary, and Sharon Cohen as Research Co-ordinator, is well into its initial research phase.

The Commissioner has visited senior officials at the provincial, metropolitan, and local levels. He expects to meet also with appointed trustees and members of various boards and commissions operating within Metro.

Initial research into the existing structure and functions of Metro including such facets as local government finance, the planning system, transportation, demographic trends, the electoral system, and physical and social services, are in various stages of completion and publication. These studies, which have been prepared by consultants, are designed for use not only by the commission, but as a preliminary basis for discussion in the series of public hearings to follow.

The first public hearings are being directed toward citizens and organizations. They are scheduled to begin in late May. A second set, scheduled for the fall, will receive briefs from municipalities and elected representatives.

Both the consultants' reports and the briefs from the public meetings will enable the commissioner to identify areas requiring further, more intensive, examination in successive phases of the study. A final report from the Robarts' Commission can be expected by the fall of 1976.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

The County of Middlesex commissioned a study of the county which excluded the City of London. Brian Turnbull acted as the study consultant. His reports have been submitted to the council and are presently under discussion.

OTTAWA-CARLETON

Dr. Henry Mayo has been commissioned by the Province to undertake a full review of the local government system in Ottawa-Carleton. A detailed statistical book has been prepared and is available to interested groups, upon request. A more general

information booklet on the Region is also being prepared. The Commissioner intends to hold his first round of public hearings in the fall and to issue a final report by June of 1976.

DISTRICT OF PARRY SOUND

Staff of the District of Parry Sound Local Government Study are completing their research and analysis of municipal organization, socio-economic patterns, land use and related topics. The Research Report and District Atlas Maps, to be published shortly, will form the basis of local discussion of municipal and planning needs and alternatives.

Public meetings were held in January and February to discuss preliminary suggestions for municipal consolidation and functional alternatives. Meetings have also been held to discuss interim and long-term planning and municipal needs in unorganized communities.

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY

For the past few years, Prince Edward County has been discussing the possibility of a one-tier system. Early in 1974, the Province acceded to the request of the County and published a proposal for a one-tier county.

A series of public meetings ensued whereupon the county decided that more time was required to allow full public discussion of the concept. The Province was, therefore, asked to delay implementation. Local discussion continues.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESTRUCTURING STUDIES COMMISSIONERS

COUNTY RESTRUCTURING STUDIES PROGRAM

COUNTY	COMMISSIONER	ADDRESS	PHONE
BRUCE	Mr. E.J. Cornies	c/o James F. MacLaren Ltd., 320 Adelaide St. S., London, Ontario. N5Z 3L2	(519) 434-5711
		<u>OR</u> Town Hall, Walkerton, Ontario.	(519) 881-0406
DUFFERIN	Mr. Eric Hardy	c/o Eric Hardy Consulting Ltd., 42 Charles St. E., Toronto, Ontario. M4Y 1T4	925-7733
ELGIN	Mr. S.H. Janes	c/o James F. MacLaren Ltd., 320 Adelaide St. S., London, Ontario. N5Z 3L2	(519) 434-5711
ESSEX	Dr. Peter Silcox	Dominion Bank Building, Suite 307, 586 Ouellette Ave., Windsor, Ontario.	(814) 252-5822
		<u>OR</u> c/o Dept. of Political Science, University of Toronto, Room 3026, 100 St. George St., Toronto, Ontario.	928-3340

COUNTY	COMMISSIONER	ADDRESS	PHONE
HALIBURTON	Mr. W. Robert Galloway	c/o Greer, Galloway and Associates Ltd., Consulting Engineers, 973 Crawford Drive, Peterborough, Ont.	(705) 743-5780
KENT	Mr. Lionel Feldman	P.O. Box 1297, Chatham, Ontario.	(519) Zenith 9-6950
		<u>OR</u>	
		c/o P.S. Ross, 200 University Ave., 4th Floor, Toronto, Ontario. M5H 2C8	363-8281
LANARK	Mr. Donald King	c/o Stevenson & Kellogg Ltd., 150 Eglinton Ave. E., 3rd Floor, Toronto, Ontario.	483-4313
		<u>OR</u>	
		c/o Lanark County Courthouse, 43 Drummond St. E., Perth, Ontario.	(613) 267-4011
LENNOX AND ADDINGTON	Dr. Richard Tindal	St. Lawrence College of Applied Arts and Technology, King St. West, Kingston, Ontario.	(613) 544-5400

COUNTY	COMMISSIONER	ADDRESS	PHONE
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		c/o Northumberland County Building, 860 William St., Cobourg, Ontario.	(416) 372-6766
PRESCOTT AND RUSSELL	Mr. Goldyn Sunderland	c/o Sunderland, Preston, Simard and Associates Ltd., 130 Albert St., Ottawa, Ontario.	(613) 235-8550
RENFREW	Mr. Eric Hardy	c/o Eric Hardy Consulting Ltd., 42 Charles St. E., Toronto, Ontario.	925-7733
VICTORIA	Mr. R.E. Sims	42 Victoria Ave., Lindsay, Ontario.	(705) 324-1640
		<u>OR</u>	
		c/o Totten, Sims, Hubicki Associates Ltd., 1500 Hopkins St., Whitby, Ontario.	(416) 668-9363

PROVINCIAL STUDIES

AREA	COMMISSIONER	ADDRESS	PHONE
METROPOLITAN TORONTO	The Honourable John P. Robarts	Metro Toronto Review Commission, 145 Queen St. W., Suite 309, Toronto, Ontario.	965-3211
OTTAWA- CARLETON	Dr. Henry Mayo	Ottawa-Carleton Review Commission, Office 515, Herzberg Laboratories for Physics, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario. K1S 5B6	(613) 231-6603
PARRY SOUND	Mr. Dave Martin	District of Parry Sound Local Government Study, P.O. Box 149, Sundridge, Ontario.	(705) 384-5303 384-5304

PROVINCIAL STUDY LIAISON OFFICERS

Staff of the Restructuring Policy Section of The Local Government Organization Branch represent the Province in discussions leading up to a C.R.S.P. Study. The Staff are also on hand to assist any individuals, municipalities or commissioners with questions regarding any of the Studies. Situated on the Fourth Floor of the Frost Building North, Queen's Park, they can be reached by calling (416) 965-6934.

MANAGER: J. Gardner Church

<u>LIAISON OFFICERS</u>	<u>AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY</u>
Roger Warner	Brant, Elgin, Essex, Kent.
Robert Whitelaw	Middlesex, Northumberland.
Dave Martin	Haliburton, Parry Sound.
Frank Nicholson	Lennox and Addington, Prince Edward, Victoria.
Judith Robertson	Lanark, Leeds and Grenville, Metropolitan Toronto.
Clive Doucet	Prescott and Russell, Ottawa-Carleton, Renfrew.
Bill Winegard	Bruce, Dufferin, Grey.

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